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DM-281

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DEPUTIES' MEETING

Monday, 12 April 1954

PRESENT: Mr. Dulles, General Cabell, Messrs. Wisner, Amory,
Colonel White, Messrs. Kirkpatrick, Sheldon,

[REDACTED]

Mr. Dulles:

a. Stated in view of Attorney General Brownell's statement in his recent speech to the effect that the FBI had reported on or about 10 February that Stalin was dead and would be succeeded by Malenkov, he desired a survey made of all FBI reports received in the past containing substantive intelligence information. Mr. Amory noted that the above-mentioned report had been received by CIA, and in addition to the item respecting Stalin it contained other unevaluated information. Mr. Amory said since the data concerning Stalin had proven to be correct, the remainder of the information contained therein had been considered in Executive Session by the IAC. After some discussion, it was agreed that DD/I, in coordination with DD/P, would appoint a task force to conduct this survey and all reports containing substantive intelligence information from the FBI would ultimately be filed by Staff C.

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c. Gave Mr. Wisner a letter he had received from [REDACTED] and his proposed reply thereto, and stated while a number of our people had reservations regarding [REDACTED] in which he concurred by and large, we might wish to get in touch with him [REDACTED] as offered. The Director said, however, he would leave this decision to DD/P.

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d. Noted a cable from [REDACTED] (IN 35653) containing a commendation to the last three stations for their work in terminating [REDACTED] and asked if additional commendations should be sent from Headquarters. Mr. Wisner noted [REDACTED] had not been finally concluded and recommended that we wait until this is done prior to dispatching any further congratulations. The Director approved.

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e. Directed that in order to complete the record on [REDACTED] recent visit to the U. S., Admiral Radford be

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Mr. Dulles (Continued):

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25X1 sent a copy of our memorandum of conversation with [] The Director also said we should include a summation of our approaches to [] for permission to conduct clandestine activities in [] in coordination with []

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General Cabell:

[]

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Colonel White:

a. Reported Colonel Edwards had received a number of oral requests and one in writing for authority to sign the "Believers' Petition" which appeared in last week's NEW YORK TIMES regarding the controversy between former Senator Benton and Senator McCarthy. Colonel White said Edwards had turned these requests down on the grounds that it was not Agency policy to allow its employees to enter into political and/or public controversies. The Director approved and noted his intention of discussing this matter at today's AD's Meeting, at which time he would confirm Colonel Edwards' action. (NOTE: This was done and will be passed on to all employees through their respective supervisors.) The Director made it clear that the above policy was not based on the case at hand but would obtain in all instances of requests for participation in any political and/or public controversies. In this connection, Mr. Kirkpatrick pointed out that such participation by a Government employee might well be in violation of the Hatch Act and stated as an example the fact that Government employees residing in Virginia are not even allowed to serve on school boards. The Director *S. 4205* asked Colonel White to have Mr. Houston call Mr. Rogers in Justice and determine whether that Department had received requests from other governmental agencies to participate in the Believers' Campaign.

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25X1 b. Stated the PRC had approved funds for the establishment [] and while this project was not yet in final form for submission to the Director, it was necessary that a decision be reached immediately as to the location of [] in order that this year's funds might be obligated before the end of the fiscal year. Colonel White said two locations had been mentioned -- []

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Colonel White (Continued):

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